

## July 2016 New Hope News



#### 2016 WATCHWORD

Christ says, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."

John 15:4 (NRSV)

### New Hope Moravian Church

### When You Don't Understand (Trust God) He Is Always Faithful!

Do you ever find yourself craving encouragement? Whether you're overwhelmed from busyness, negativity or the temptations of this world? Everyone can use a regular reminder of how faithful our God is! Scripture says, "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

From the back porch of her home, Shirley noticed a beautiful butterfly with its fragile legs caught in a spider's web. It was flapping its wings wildly trying desperately to escape. Feeling sorry for the butterfly, she came closer to see if she could free it. It seemed the harder the butterfly tried to escape, the more it got entangled in the spider's web. As gently as possible she helped free the butterfly. Clearly, it was delighted when it was able to break free and fly away.

This picture of the butterfly, should remind us all, how easily, we can get entrapped by sin. A little dabbling here and a little dabbling there; We put our toe in sin's waters as it were and before we know it, we are entrapped in the web of our own words and actions, derived by our own deep emotions. And the harder we try to escape and free ourselves, the more enmeshed we become.

What we need is just what we have...a Savior that will never fail or forsake us. A Savior, we can always trust. The fact is, we cannot free ourselves or save ourselves. Nor can anyone else save us from sin's entrapment and eternal consequences. Only God can do that. He has provided the only way of escape and through His Beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave His life to pay sin's penalty for us. Jesus paid our sin debt in full! As Ephesians 2:8, states, "By grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."

Proverbs 3:5-6 states, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Remember the children of Israel, when they were finally set free from Egypt after 400 years of slavery, they started marching toward freedom; they were confronted with the Red Sea. There were impassable mountain ranges on two sides and the sea in front of them. Their journey looked hopeless, yet they continued to march forward despite their unfavorable surrounds. And then, to top it all, the Pharaoh changed his mind about letting them go...and now, the Egyptian army was in hot pursuit of them. The Israelites path looked like a dead-end.

Yet God had a plan...He knew exactly what He wanted to do. God does not make mistakes...He was not leading them to death! He could see what they could not see. Remember, He opened the Red Sea and they walked safely through. Years later, the Israelites looked back and sang, "Your road led by a pathway through the sea—a pathway no one knew was there!" (Psalm 77:19).

You may be facing what seems to be a dead-end right now—financial, emotional, relational, physical—but God sees a pathway you don't see. If you will just trust God and keep moving forward in faith, even when you don't see a way. He will always make a way for you. God's plan for you will become more understandable as you head down the path He sets before you. But understanding is not a requirement for you to start down the path. Proverbs 4:18 says, "The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining brighter till the full light of day." One day you will stand in the full light of eternity and view the big picture. One day you will see God's perfect plan and purpose behind the pathway...He specifically chose for you.

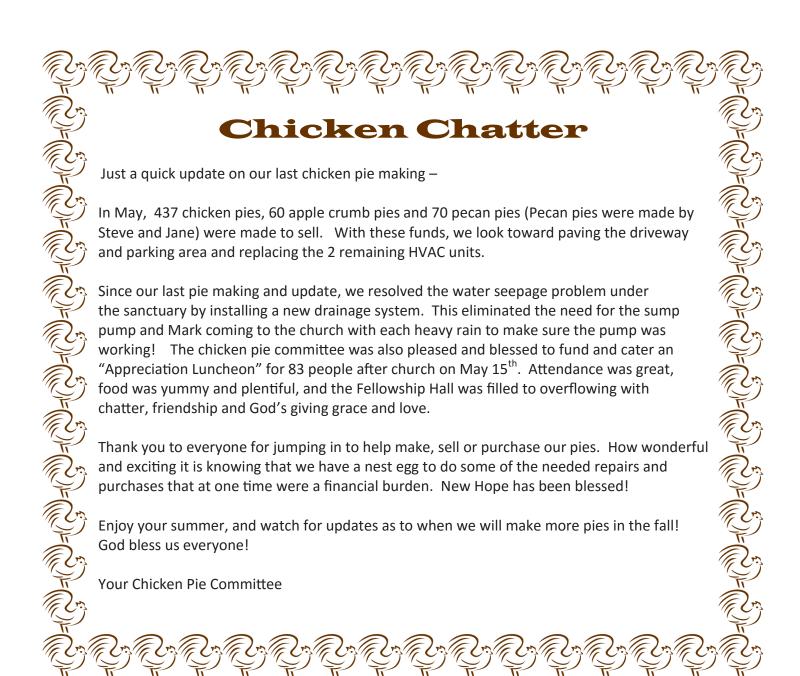
What do we do in the meantime? You do what Proverbs 3 says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." What do these words mean, "lean not on your own understanding"? Basically, we don't need to try to figure out or understand everything in our life. In truth, we are not going to understand most of the things that happen to us in this life until we get to heaven.

Dear Friends...Be patient. God knows what He's doing. God knows what's best for you. He can see the end result. You and I cannot! All our heartaches, difficulties and delays -- all the things that make us ask "why." One day everything will be perfectly clear in the light of God's love.

But for now, "Keep trusting in a Savior who is always faithful!" God will never fail YOU!!!

In Christ Service,

Pastor Betty



## Service and Witness News

The Service and Witness Committee service focus for July is school supply donations for both ECCCM and our CMO program. Thank you for participating.

ECCCM has requested the following supplies for Newton-Conover City Schools 2016-17 school year. Please place your items at the rear church entrance where we have previously collected food donations.

We are waiting for a similar list from Catawba County Schools.

We will collect school supplies throughout July.

### **ECCCM School Supplies:**

loose leaf paper-- Wide and college ruled
Spiral notebook--Wide and college ruled
3- ring Binders—1 to 2 inches
Journal style composition book

Graph Paper

Pocket folders - any color

**Pencils** 

Ink Pens

Colored pencils

Pink Erasers

8 count box of crayons

<u>CMO</u> school supply donations will be provided through gift cards this year. If you would like to purchase a card, please make it Walmart, Target, AC Moore, Office Depot. You may donate money towards a gift card. Place gift cards and money in the envelope on the church office door.

We will likely resume Food-of-the-Month in September. Thank you to everyone who has donated in May and June and to Mark and Malissa who have made our deliveries.

Please continue bringing plastic bags which are much appreciated at ECCCM.

Other items of interest: John Furmage is coordinating Old Soldiers' Reunion activities. Fall Harvest picnic is October 30.

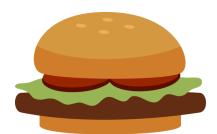
# "Celebrating the Fourth of July" Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>





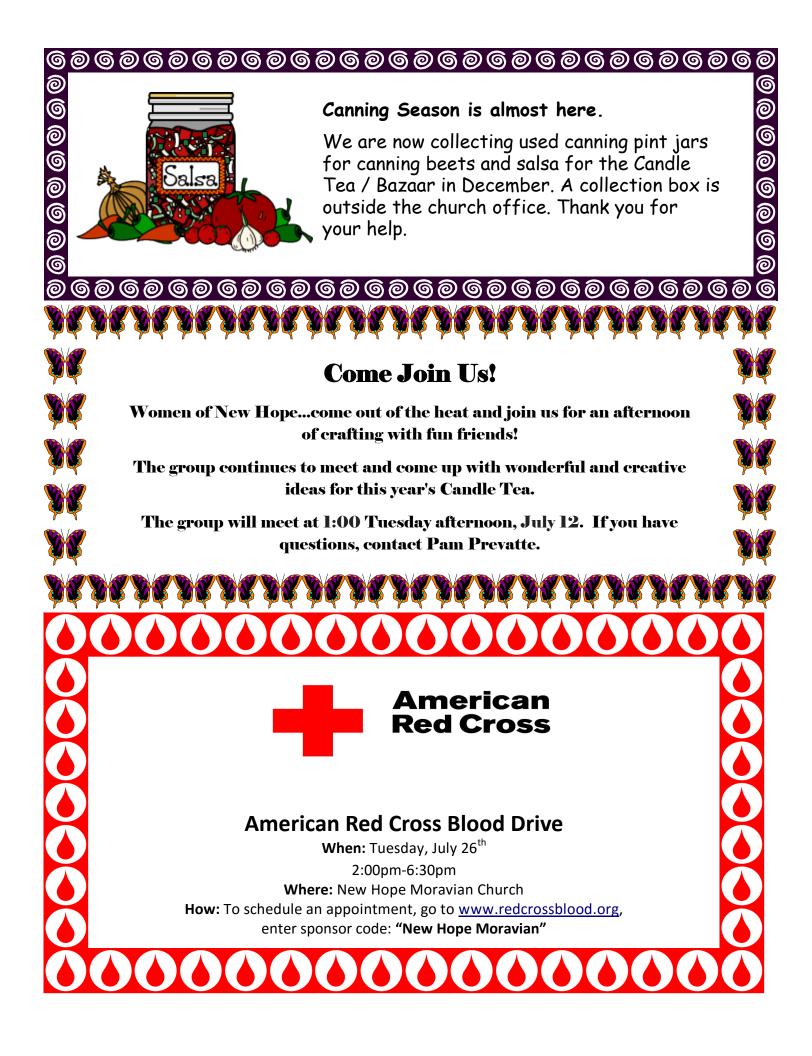
# Casual dress... don't forget to wear red, white or blue





New Hope will celebrate the Fourth of July on Sunday, July 3<sup>th</sup>, with a cookout immediately following church service. Bring your family, your friends, and a dish or two to share. Please dress casually and join us for fun and fellowship as we celebrate this great nation in which we live. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

See you there!





### RESULTS FROM VOLUNTEER SURVEY

We had sixteen responses to the survey about volunteer activities outside of church. It is apparent that we are a congregation that is busy doing God's work out in the community! If you did not fill out a survey but would like to, I still have the forms. Below is a list of the responses. If any of the volunteer opportunities interest you, I can connect you with the person involved with it.

Margaret Schultz
Service and Witness Committee

Habitat Restore

Chorus Tutoring

Guardian ad Litem

Volunteering for School Aged Children

Tutoring Translator

Classroom Volunteer

In case you missed it!!!

in the ECCCM Second

**Quarter Newsletter.** 

New Hope was recognized

**Event Planning** 

4H

**Boys State** 

ECCCM

Sporting Events

Pregnancy Care Center

American Legion Fair Catawba Co. Sheriff Dept.

Counseling Mentor

Meals on Wheels

Hospice

**Blood Donor** 

**Unique World Gifts** 

### Thank You, New Hope Moravian Church

New Hope Moravian Church has increased its involvement with ECCM. The congregation has started collecting a food item of the month, ensuring we don't run out of essential food items, on top of volunteering regularly and collecting plastic bags.

We are so grateful for the continual support of New Hope Moravian Church and all of our supportive churches!





Volunteers from New Hope Moravian Church

### **PRE-ORDER FORM FOR 2017 DAILY TEXT**

Order before July 24 and receive a 15% discount!

NAME	::		
PHONE NUMBER:			
Digital editions of The 2017 Daily Texts will also be available for Kindle, Nook, and iBooks directly from Amazon, Barnes and Noble and iTunes in November.			
DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
Paperback	\$9.00		
Hardcover	\$13.00		
Large Print	\$11.00		
Journal	\$14.00		
*Payable upon delivery (Total Amount Due) \$			
(0.1)			
(Orders should be available for pick-up sometime in October 2016.)			

These order forms should be placed in the folder on church office door no later than Sunday, July 24, 2016.

Or you may email the church with your order @ newhopemoravian@gmail.com.

#### Pray Every Day July 2016

- 1. Your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Pray for Phil & Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
- 2. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved son. Pray for Justin Rabbach, Dir. of Moravian Volunteer Resources.
- 3. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Pray for Joe Jarvis and the work with the Cuban Moravian Church.
- 4. Sing psalms hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, making melody to the Lord in your heart. Pray for the Medical Clinic and the church in Ahuas, Honduras.
- 5. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace that has been given to you. Pray for Phil and Ashley Sineath with Campus Outreach Global.
- 6. Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Pray for R & B in the Sudan.
- 7. Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; for I am with you. Pray for the advisory board of the Unity Women's Desk.
- 8. In the past God spoke through the prophets but in these last days he has spoken to us by his son. Pray for BWM board and staff.
- Our Lord God! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your great power. Pray for Annie B. Mission with Star Mountain in Palestine.
- 10. Make me know your ways, oh Lord; teach me your paths. Pray for Vani and Shanti Pradhan and the Nepali Moravian Outreach.
- 11. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. Pray for the Solar Program and the Food program in the Sierra Leone Moravian Church.
- 12. Seek good and not evil, that you may live. Pray for the peace of Israel & the Jewish people.
- 13. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths. Pray for mission teams at home & abroad this summer.
- 14. You who love the Lord, hate evil! Pray for the refugees without homes.
- 15. Thou shall not commit adultery. Pray for Missionary Aviation Repair Center with Alas de Socorro.
- 16. Oh Lord, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge on the day of trouble. Pray for the Mission Areas of Sierra Leone, Cuba, and Peru.
- 17. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Pray for camp directors and workers and for the children whose lives are being touched there.
- 18. The Lord's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Pray for Ruth Snyder and Claire Wilson with "Changed Choices."
- 19. My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor your ways my ways. Pray for Dr. Louis and Susan Sutton serving with WEC, Int., Singapore.
- 20. All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord . Pray for K & C in Middle East.
- 21. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. Pray for Charlie & Vickie Brent and Family in campus ministry in TX.
- 22. Jesus parents found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
- 23. Woe to you when all speak well of you. Pray for Michael, Cecilia & Blessing Tesh in Kenya.
- 24. The Lord frustrates the plans of peoples. Pray for Drs. Bill & Peggy Hoffman with HIV/AIDS ministry in Tanzania.
- 25. By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their hosts by His breath. Pray for the Moravian Volunteer Resources.
- 26. On him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again. Pray for Ed Dehnert and Barb Weide at Alaska Bible Seminary.
- 27. Will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Pray the Woos in Asia.
- 28. Return to your God, hold fast to love justice, and wait continually for God. Pray for Rob and Anne Thiessen in Mexico.
- 29. Consider and realize how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the Lord your God and have no awe of me. Pray for the Antioch Project and Servants, including Marshall, AK.
- 30. He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what the Lord requires of you. Pray for Safiatu and Mohamed Braima in Sierra Leone.
- 31. When you give a banquet, invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. Pray for Dusty & Christin Harrison at Clemson University.